

The accidental circumstance that throughout the period of the Malting House School covered by these records there was a much larger number of boys than of girls further accounts for a certain disproportion in the illustrative material. The relatively scanty data as to the sexual phantasies of girls, and the preponderance of open sexual aggression in the records, are both due to this accidental factor.

Our material will thus not serve as a groundwork for a full systematic survey of sexual development in children. Nor is it my aim to offer this.¹ What I am concerned to do is, first, to show the developmental meaning of such sexual behaviour as does from time to time come to open expression in the ordinary life of young children, whether in the home or the nursery school, and to link this up with social development in the broader sense; and, later on, to consider the practical problems of education which arise from these facts. As these records demonstrate, far more such openly sexual behaviour occurs among small children than is usually admitted, and quite enough to bear witness to the truth of the psycho-analytic view of the child's emotional development.

To return now to the first question, that of the justification for bringing together all these different sorts of behaviour under the general heading of "sexuality"; my reasons for doing so are essentially *genetic* reasons. That is to say, psycho-analysis has revealed an intimate nexus of specific genetic connections between the sorts of fact which are included here, and through these we are able to arrive at a general understanding not otherwise available of the total development of the child, both as a whole and in its various

and detailed aspects. We have come to see how all the different threads of social, emotional (and, in the last resort, even intellectual) development hang together, tracing them back to their earliest and simplest roots, and following them forward into their more complex later phases.

To particularise : if we take, for instance, the incidents grouped under *anal and urethral interests*, and ask, as one or two friends who read my records in typescript did ask, why the children's "natural" interest in the processes of

¹ The reader who seeks for such a survey should turn to *The Psycho-Analysis of Children*, by Melanie Klein, Hogarth Press, 1932.